

C. INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants' representative, Amy Pattillo, and Examiner Ehne participated in a telephone interview on September 6, 2007 regarding the present application. No demonstrations were made or exhibits shown. In particular, Applicants' representative requested clarification of the Examiner's interpretation of King as applied to claim 1 in the elements of means for enabling a user to specify a condition under which an activated identity indicator is reset and means for monitoring the system to detect satisfaction of the condition and for deactivating the identity indicator in response thereto. Examiner Ehne pointed to paragraphs 0113, 0239, 0240, and 0243 as cited in the Office Action, and pointed to the reference as a whole as reading on the claim elements. In addition, Applicants requested clarification of the Examiner's interpretation of King as applied to claim 3 in the element of wherein the means for monitoring the system comprise means for polling the serial number of the FRU to determine when the FRU has been replaced. Examiner Ehne pointed to paragraph 0165 as describing a serial number in an EEPROM and to paragraph 0133 as describing accessing boot information from the EEPROM.

In addition, Applicants' representative requested evaluation of whether the proposed amendment to claim 1 would overcome the rejection under 35 USC 102(e) in view of King. In particular, Applicants' representative proposed the following amendment to claim 1:

1. A data processing system including processor and system memory, comprising:

a set of field replaceable units (FRUs) allocated among a plurality of logical partitions each running a separate instance of at least one operating system;

a set of identify indicators wherein at least one of the identify indicators is associated with at least one of the field replaceable units allocated to at least one of the plurality of logical partitions;

each of the plurality of separate instances of the at least one operating system among the plurality of logical partitions for controlling conditions under which each of the at least one of the identify indicators

allocated to the particular logical partition from among the plurality of logical partitions is reset;

a hardware management console means for enabling a user to specify a condition under which an activated identify indicator is reset independent of which of the plurality of logical partitions the activated identify indicator is allocated to;

a hypervisor means for globally monitoring the system independent of allocations to the plurality of logical partitions to detect satisfaction of the condition and for deactivating the activated identify indicator in response thereto.

The Examiner indicated that each of the blades in King could be considered a logical partition and that King describes separate operating systems running on separate blades. Applicants' representative noted that a logical partition is a software description of resources, but that Applicants' representative would consider other language that would distinguish the logical partitions of the present invention from hardware FRUs. For example, Applicants' representative noted that a logical partition is a view of a combination of resources, which may be allocated from different FRUs. No agreement was made with respect to the claims. Applicants file this response with amendments for consideration by the Examiner.